

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A decoder for controlling the display of a plurality of digital television channels in respective windows of a mosaic formation, said decoder comprising means for receiving access rights to one of a programme and a channel, and means for permitting one of only audio access or only visual access ~~partial audio and visual access~~ by the user to said one of a programme and a channel when displayed in said windows according to the received access rights.
2. (Original) A decoder according to Claim 1, comprising means for receiving access rights data together with audiovisual data for creating the mosaic.
3. (Original) A decoder according to Claim 2, comprising means for issuing a request for full audio and visual access to one of a channel and a programme displayed in a window.
4. (Original) A decoder according to claim 1, comprising means for generating a cursor for display with the mosaic formation, said cursor being selectively movable over the windows of the mosaic formation to enable selection of a desired window within the mosaic formation.
5. (Original) A decoder according to Claim 4, comprising means for generating audio information associated with a particular channel in response to the positioning of the cursor over a said window displaying said particular channel.
6. (Original) A decoder according to Claim 5, comprising means for prohibiting the generation of said audio information according to the received access rights.
7. (Original) A decoder according to Claim 6, wherein the prohibiting means is adapted to prohibit the generation of said audio information if the cursor is positioned over said window for longer than a predetermined length of time.

8. (Original) A decoder according to Claim 3, wherein the issuing means is arranged automatically to issue said request when said cursor has been positioned over that window for a predetermined period of time.
9. (Original) A decoder according to Claim 4, comprising means for automatically re-positioning the cursor in the event that the cursor is placed over a said window displaying one of a programme or a channel to which full audio and visual access is prohibited.
10. (Original) A decoder according to Claim 9, wherein said repositioning means is adapted to reposition the cursor after the expiration of a predetermined period of time.
11. (Original) A decoder according to claim 4, comprising means for changing an attribute of the cursor depending on a characteristic of at least one of the programme and channel displayed in a window over which the cursor is positioned.
12. (Currently Amended) A decoder for controlling the display of a plurality of digital television channels in respective windows of a mosaic formation, said decoder comprising means for generating a cursor for display with the mosaic formation, said cursor being movable to select a desired channel within the mosaic formation, and means for changing an attribute of the cursor depending on a characteristic of at least one of a programme and a channel displayed in a window over which the cursor is positioned, wherein said cursor is automatically repositioned after a non-instantaneous pre-determined amount of time when said cursor is positioned on a window displaying one of a programme or a channel to which full audio and visual access is prohibited.
13. (Original) A decoder according to Claim 11, wherein said changing means is arranged to change the colour of said cursor depending on said characteristic of at least one of a programme and a channel displayed in the window over which the cursor is positioned.
14. (Original) A decoder according to claim 11, comprising means for receiving data for assigning said characteristic from a remote control handset associated with the decoder and means for assigning said characteristic in response to said received data.
15. (Original) A decoder according to claim 4, comprising means for tuning the decoder to a channel displayed in the desired window upon selection of the desired window.

16. (Original) A decoder according to claim 4, comprising means for generating a display comprising information regarding the programme displayed in the desired window upon selection of the desired window.
17. (Previously Presented) A decoder according to claim 1, said decoder further comprising means for generating a cursor for display with the mosaic formation, said cursor being selectively movable over the windows of the mosaic formation to enable selection of a desired window within the mosaic formation, means for generating a display comprising information regarding the programme displayed in the desired window upon selection of the desired window, and means for communicating with a communications centre to obtain said information regarding the programme displayed in the desired window.
18. (Original) A decoder according to claim 16, comprising means for communicating with a communications centre to obtain said information regarding the programme displayed in the desired window.
19. (Original) A decoder according to claim 18, wherein said communication means comprises a modem for dialing up said communications centre to supply a request for said information to the communications centre.
20. (Original) A decoder according to claim 4, comprising means for generating a display comprising a forthcoming programme schedule for the channel displayed in the desired window upon selection of the desired window.
21. (Canceled)
22. (Original) A decoder according to claim 20, wherein said forthcoming programme schedule comprises a textual display of programme schedule information.
23. (Original) A decoder according to claim 20, wherein said forthcoming programme schedule comprises a display of a plurality of pictorial images associated with respective forthcoming programmes in respective windows of a mosaic formation
24. (Canceled)

25. (Canceled)
26. (Canceled)
27. (Original) A decoder according to claim 23, wherein at least one of said plurality of pictorial images comprises video footage associated with the respective forthcoming programme.
28. (Original) A decoder according to claim 1, wherein said receiving means is adapted to receive said access rights from a remote control handset associated with the decoder.
29. (Original) A decoder according to claim 28, wherein said receiving means is adapted to receive a PIN number from the remote control handset, said decoder comprising means for authenticating the received PIN number and, upon authentication of the received PIN number, permitting reception of the access rights.
30. (Previously Presented) A decoder according to claim 1, comprising means for prohibiting the generation of at least a portion of video information in said windows in dependence on the access rights to one of a programme and a channel displayed in that window.
31. (Original) A decoder according to claim 30, comprising means for controlling the display of a picture in said window instead of said at least a portion of video information.
32. (Original) A decoder according to claim 31, wherein said picture comprises a logo associated with the channel displayed in said window.
33. (Original) A decoder according to claim 31, wherein said picture comprises an image associated with the programme displayed in said window.
34. (Original) A decoder according to claim 30, comprising means for controlling the display of an advertisement in said window instead of said at least a portion of video information.
35. (Original) A decoder according to claim 30, comprising means for controlling the display of further video information in said window instead of said at least a portion of video information.

36. (Original) A decoder according to claim 35, wherein said further video information comprises promotional video information.
37. (Original) A decoder according to claim 1, comprising means for generating a message informing a user of the access rights to one of a programme and a channel in the event of the positioning of the cursor on a said window displaying said one of a programme and a channel.
38. (Original) A decoder according to claim 1, comprising positional control means for controlling the relative positions of said windows within the mosaic formation.
39. (Original) A decoder according to claim 38, wherein said positional control means is arranged to control the relative positions of said windows in response to the received access rights to the channels or programmes displayed in said windows.
40. (Canceled)
41. (Canceled)
42. (Canceled)
43. (Canceled)
44. (Canceled)
45. (Canceled)
46. (Canceled)
47. (Canceled)
48. (Canceled)
49. (Canceled)
50. (Canceled)

51. (Currently Amended) A method of controlling the display of a plurality of digital television channels in respective windows of a mosaic formation, comprising receiving access rights to one of a programme and a channel, and permitting one of only audio access or only visual access ~~partial audio and visual access~~ by the user to said one of a programme and a channel when displayed in a said window according to the received access rights.
52. (Original) A method according to claim 51, wherein the access rights are received together with audiovisual data for creating the mosaic.
53. (Original) A method according to claim 51, wherein a cursor is generated for display with the mosaic formation, said cursor being selectively movable over the windows of the mosaic formation to enable selection of a desired window within the mosaic formation.
54. (Original) A method according to claim 53, wherein audio information associated with a particular channel is generated in response to the positioning of the cursor over a said window displaying said particular channel.
55. (Original) A method according to claim 54, wherein the generation of said audio information is prohibited according to the received access rights.
56. (Original) A method according to claim 55, wherein the generation of said audio information is prohibited if the cursor is positioned over said window for longer than a predetermined length of time.
57. (Original) A method according to claim 53, wherein the cursor is automatically re-positioned in the event that the cursor is placed over a said window displaying one of a programme or a channel to which full audio and visual access is prohibited.
58. (Original) A method according to claim 57, wherein the cursor is repositioned after the expiry of a predetermined period of time.
59. (Original) A method according to claim 53, wherein an attribute of the cursor is changed depending on a characteristic of at least one of the programme and channel displayed in the window over which the cursor is positioned.

60. (Currently Amended) A method of controlling the display of a plurality of digital television channels in respective windows of a mosaic formation, comprising generating a cursor for display with the mosaic formation, said cursor being movable to select a desired channel within the mosaic formation, and changing an attribute of the cursor depending on a characteristic of at least one of the programme and channel displayed in the window over which the cursor is positioned, wherein said cursor is automatically repositioned after a non-instantaneous pre-determined amount of time when said cursor is positioned on a window displaying one of a programme or a channel to which full audio and visual access is prohibited.
61. (Original) A method according to claim 59, wherein the colour of said cursor is changed depending on said characteristic of at least one of the programme and channel displayed in the window over which the cursor is positioned.
62. (Original) A method according to claim 60, wherein data for assigning said characteristic is received from a remote control handset associated with the decoder, said characteristic being assigned in response to said received data.
63. (Original) A method according to claim 60, wherein the decoder is tuned to a channel displayed in the desired window upon selection of the desired window.
64. (Original) A method according to claim 60, wherein a display comprising information regarding the programme displayed in the desired window is generated upon selection of the desired window.
65. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 51, further comprising generating a cursor for display with the mosaic formation, said cursor being selectively movable over the windows of the mosaic formation to enable selection of a desired window within the mosaic formation, generating a display comprising information regarding the programme displayed in the desired window upon selection of the desired window, and communicating with a communications centre to obtain said information regarding the programme displayed in the desired window.

66. (Original) A method according to claim 64, comprising communicating with a communications centre to obtain said information regarding the programme displayed in the desired window.
67. (Original) A method according to claim 66, comprising dialing up said communications centre to supply a request for said information to the communications centre.
68. (Original) A method according to claim 60, wherein a display comprising a forthcoming programme schedule for the channel displayed in the desired window is generated upon selection of the desired window.
69. (Canceled)
70. (Canceled)
71. (Canceled)
72. (Canceled)
73. (Canceled)
74. (Canceled)
75. (Canceled)
76. (Original) A method according to claim 51, wherein said access rights are received from a remote control handset associated with the decoder.
77. (Original) A method according to claim 76, wherein a PIN number is received from the remote control handset, the received PIN number being authenticated to, upon authentication of the received PIN number, permit reception of the access rights.
78. (Original) A method according to claim 51, wherein the generation of at least a portion of video information in a said window is prohibited in dependence on the access rights to one of a programme and a channel displayed in that window.

79. (Original) A method according to Claim 78, wherein a picture is displayed in said window instead of said at least a portion of video information.
80. (Original) A method according to Claim 79, wherein said picture comprises a logo associated with the channel displayed in said window.
81. (Original) A method according to Claim 80, wherein said picture comprises an image associated with the programme displayed in said window.
82. (Original) A method according to Claim 78, wherein an advertisement is displayed in said window instead of said at least a portion of video information.
83. (Original) A method according to Claim 78, wherein further video information is displayed in said window instead of said at least a portion of video information.
84. (Original) A method according to Claim 83, wherein said further video information comprises promotional video information.
85. (Original) A method according to claim 51, wherein a message is generated informing a user of the access rights to one of a programme and a channel in the event of the positioning of the cursor on a said window displaying said one of a programme and a channel.
86. (Original) A method according to claim 51, comprising controlling the relative positions of said windows within the mosaic formation.
87. (Original) A method according to Claim 86, wherein the relative positions of said windows are controlled in response to the received access rights to the channels or programmes displayed in said windows.
88. – 100. (Canceled)
101. (Original) A decoder according to claim 12, comprising means for prohibiting the generation of at least a portion of video information in a said window in dependence on the access rights to one of a program and a channel displayed in that window.

102. (Original) A decoder according to claim 17, comprising means for prohibiting the generation of at least a portion of video information in a said window in dependence on the access rights to one of a program and a channel displayed in that window.

103. (Original) A decoder according to claim 20, comprising means for prohibiting the generation of at least a portion of video information in a said window in dependence on the access rights to one of a program and a channel displayed in that window.

104. (Original) A decoder according to claim 12, comprising means for generating a message informing a user of the access rights to one of a program and a channel in the event of the positioning of the cursor on a said window displaying said one of a program and a channel.

105. (Original) A decoder according to claim 17, comprising means for generating a message informing a user of the access rights to one of a program and a channel in the event of the positioning of the cursor on a said window displaying said one of a program and a channel.

106. (Original) A decoder according to claim 20, comprising means for generating a message informing a user of the access rights to one of a program and a channel in the event of the positioning of the cursor on a said window displaying said one of a program and a channel.

107. (Original) A decoder according to claim 12, comprising positional control means for controlling the relative positions of said windows within the mosaic formation.

108. (Original) A decoder according to claim 17, comprising positional control means for controlling the relative positions of said windows within the mosaic formation.

109. (Original) A decoder according to claim 20, comprising positional control means for controlling the relative positions of said windows within the mosaic formation.

110. (Original) A method according to claim 59, wherein data for assigning said characteristic is received from a remote control handset associated with the decoder, said characteristic being assigned in response to the received data.

111. (Original) A method according to claim 53, wherein the decoder is turned to a channel displayed in the desired window is generated upon selection of the desired window.

112. (Original) A method according to claim 53, wherein a display comprising information regarding the program displayed in the desired window is generated upon selection of the desired window.

113. (Original) A method according to claim 53, wherein a display comprising a forthcoming program schedule for the channel displayed in the desired window is generated upon selection of the desired window.

114. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 53, wherein a forthcoming program schedule comprises a textual display of program schedule information.

115. (Original) A method according to claim 68, wherein said forthcoming program schedule comprises a textual display of program schedule information.

116. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 53, wherein a forthcoming program schedule comprises a display of a plurality of pictorial images associated with respective forthcoming programs in respective windows of a mosaic formation.

117. (Original) A method according to claim 68, wherein said forthcoming program schedule comprises a display of a plurality of pictorial images associated with respective forthcoming programs in respective windows of a mosaic formation.

118. (Original) A method according to claim 60, wherein the generation of at least a portion of video information in said window is prohibited in dependence on the access rights to one of a program and a channel displayed in that window.

119. (Original) A method according to claim 65, wherein the generation of at least a portion of video information in said window is prohibited in dependence on the access rights to one of a program and a channel displayed in that window.

120. (Canceled)

121. (Original) A method according to claim 60, wherein a message is generated informing a user of the access rights to one of a program and a channel in the event of the positioning of the cursor on a said window displaying said one of a program and a channel.

122. (Original) A method according to claim 65, wherein a message is generated informing a user of the access rights to one of a program and a channel in the event of the positioning of the cursor on a said window displaying said one of a program and a channel.

123. (Canceled)

124. (Original) A method according to claim 60, comprising controlling the relative positions of said windows within the mosaic formation.

125. (Original) A method according to claim 65, comprising controlling the relative positions of said windows within the mosaic formation.

126. (Canceled)

127. (Original) A method according to claim 86, wherein the relative positions of said windows are controlled in response to received window positioning data for controlling the relative positions of said windows within the mosaic formation.

128. (Original) A method according to claim 124, wherein the relative positions of said windows are controlled in response to received window positioning data for controlling the relative positions of said windows within the mosaic formation.

129. (Original) A method according to claim 125, wherein the relative positions of said windows are controlled in response to received window positioning data for controlling the relative positions of said windows within the mosaic formation.

130. (Canceled)

131. (Original) A method according to claim 86, wherein the relative positions of the windows of the mosaic formation are controlled according to a program characteristic of programs normally shown on the channels displayed in the windows.

132. (Original) A method according to claim 124, wherein the relative positions of the windows of the mosaic formation are controlled according to a program characteristic of programs normally shown on the channels displayed in the windows.

133. (Original) A method according to claim 125, wherein the relative positions of the windows of the mosaic formation are controlled according to a program characteristic of programs normally shown on the channels displayed in the windows.

134. (Canceled)

135. (Original) A method according to claim 86, wherein a window displaying one of a particular channel and a particular program is maintained in a constant position in the mosaic formation.

136. (Original) A method according to claim 124, wherein a window displaying one of a particular channel and a particular program is maintained in a constant position in the mosaic formation.

137. (Original) A method according to claim 125, wherein a window displaying one of a particular channel and a particular program is maintained in a constant position in the mosaic formation.

138. (Canceled)

139. (Original) A decoder according to claim 3, comprising means for generating a cursor for display with the mosaic formation, said cursor being selectively movable over the windows of the mosaic formation to enable selection of a desired window within the mosaic formation.

140. (Original) A decoder according to claim 139, wherein the issuing means is arranged automatically to issue said request when said cursor has been positioned over that window for a predetermined period of time.

141. (Currently Amended) A decoder for controlling the display of a plurality of digital television channels in respective windows of a mosaic formation, said decoder comprising:

means for receiving access rights to a first program and a second program displayed in the mosaic formation;

means for determining whether a user is permitted complete access to the first program based on the access rights associated with the user;

means for permitting one of only audio access or only visual access ~~partial audio and visual access~~ by the user to the first program while the first program is displayed in said windows of the mosaic formation, if the user is not permitted complete access to the first program; and

means for providing complete audio and visual access to the user to the first program, if the user is permitted complete access to the first program.

142. (Currently Amended) A decoder according to claim 141, further comprising:

means for determining whether a user is permitted complete access to the second program based on the access rights associated with the user;

means for permitting one of only audio access or only visual access ~~partial audio and visual access~~ by the user to the second program while the second program is displayed in said windows of the mosaic formation, if the user is not permitted complete access to the second program; and

means for providing complete audio and visual access to the user to the second program, if the user is permitted complete access to the second program.